Norms For Class 'A' Railway Platforms

*488. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state!

(a) whether Government have prescribed any norms for Class 'A' railway platforms in respect of their height, surface, length and breadth and various amenities to be provided thereat like sitting arrangements, urinals, waiting halls, vending stalls, etc.,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these prescribed norms have been followed in case of Nagpur Railway Station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) High level platforms with a well maintained surface and amenities such as sitting arrangements, urinals, waiting halls vending stalls, platforms shelter, lighting fans, latrines, footover-bridge time table display and clock are provided at Class 'A' railway stations.

(c) and (d) Facilities commensurate with the level of traffic handled have already been provided at Nagpur railway station. To further augment the existing facilities, works costing Rs. 335.50 lakh have also been included in the budget for the year 1996-97.

New Godavari University in Andhra Pradesh

*489. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: DR. MOHAN BABU:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE .DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1365 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th July, 1996, and state:

(a) the action taken on the proposal to set-up a new Godavari University in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) by when clearance and assistance from the UGC arc likely to be given?

THE MINISTER'OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission. Dr. Pulla Rao of Eluru, West Godavari District submitted a proposal to the Commission for setting up of Godavari University in January, 96. The Commission has since advised Dr. Rao to approach the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the purpose.

(b) Does not arise.

Preconditions for Urea Import Contracts

*490. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are introducing sweeping preconditions for all urea import contracts and tightening its grip on public sector fertilizer companies in the aftermath of the NFL-Karsen urea scam;

(b) if so, what are the new norms that have been framed and whether the fertilizer department has decided that all major financial decisions taken by public sector fertilizer outfits will have to be approved under Government norms in the Company's board;

(c) to what extent this will help in checking such scam; and

(d) whether import of fertilizers would be curbed to avoid any underhand dealing, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA): (a) to (d) In the aftermath of NFL-Karsan experience, thje Government is reviewing the procedures for import of urea with a view to make them more